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DR. PAINE'S REPLY TO H. I. B.—No. II.

I SHALL now take up the examination of a subject to which I referred at the close of my remarks in the preceding number. The charge which is conveyed, and the manner of its execution, being designed as the most fatal stab at my integrity and my work, the reader must bear with me whilst I place upon record one of the most remarkable instances of critical chicanery that has probably ever fallen under his observation. I could expose the fraud, and thus cover the whole of Dr. B.'s article with confusion, in a few words. "When a man," says Dr. B., "proves false in one position, we suspect him in regard to others" (p. 107); or, as Quintilian has it, "*Maledicus a malefico non distat nisi occasione.*" But it is due to the profession, which is deeply interested in subjects of such importance as are involved in the writings of M. Louis, that I should show, unequivocally, that I have treated them with the most scrupulous fairness. It is due to men of science, and of laborious intellectual industry, that I should make a full representation of the fraud which is here practised, that the pen of interested or unprincipled critics may be less frequently envenomed, and that I should erect a gibbet at which envy itself may stand appalled. It is due to M. Louis, and to the readers of his works, that I should fully expose the manner in which the translator perverts them to interested purposes. It is due to truth, to my honor, and to my work, that I should analyze throughout an artful contrivance by which Dr. Bowditch attempts a plot of such comprehensive design. The specifications which I shall establish are,—

1*st.* A perversion of a pretended and fundamental extract from my Essay, in disconnecting a part of a sentence from its indispensable relation to words immediately preceding.

2*nd.* An erasure from the body of the extract of the two most important words, by which the whole meaning is altered.

3*rd.* That, by this act it is endeavored to be shown, in part, that I have fundamentally misrepresented M. Louis, and, therefore, that my Essay, if not my whole work, is radically defective.

4*th.* That this intended inference from a surreptitious quotation is directly enforced by an accompanying declaration as set forth in my third specification, and that this charge is also of a general nature.

5*th.* That a passage of specific import, and relating *exclusively* to the ostensible ground of the supposed anatomical lesion of the glands of Peyer, is put forth in a mutilated form, to show that I had given "an

unfair impression of his (M. Louis's) labors;" when, in its appropriate place, I had allowed more than is required by M. Louis, or by Dr. B. himself.

6*th*. That the offence which Dr. B. was thus imputing to me, was perpetrated in the very act and in an unexampled manner by the projector.

7*th*. That the charge is sustained by a false translation of the original French; and that, in thus falsifying the author, an impression is attempted that I had committed the crime.

8*th*. That the translation, in its most essential attribute, is wholly different from the original translation by the same hand, which had declared in its Preface the belief that it had "translated *truly the meaning* of the author in *every* respect."

9*th*. That the perverted translation ascribes an importance to the supposed characteristic anatomical lesion of the typhoid affection, which is not even insinuated by M. Louis.

10*th*. That the perversion of the translation, and the induction from it by Dr. B., appropriate a foundation, in a general sense, to the work on Typhoid Fever, which M. Louis never designed in the sense which is thus conveyed.

11*th*. That Dr. B. employs a mutilated fundamental quotation, and a false translation, as a principal means of convicting me of falsehood, when the true quotation and the true translation show, respectively, that I have stated the truth.

12*th*. That, contrary to his usual practice in the review, Dr. B. suppresses the original French in the instance under consideration, and a reference to the page in my work.

13*th*. That, as a critical writer, Dr. B. has adulterated a most important element of the press, thrown suspicion over its honest guardians, and by thus blunting the edge of criticism he has opened wider the door for licentiousness in writing.

Dr. B. is speaking specifically of the supposed characteristic *anatomical lesion* of the typhoid affection.—(P. 82—83.) He goes on thus: "Dr. Paine may think he has gained his end, and that Chomel and we both allow that Louis generalized too quickly—and that in stating the anatomical characteristic of the typhoid fever to be a lesion of Peyer's patches, we declare that the symptoms are dependent upon this change of these patches. Now let us examine Louis's works and see what he says upon the subject; and first, we must say that in stating the foundation of Louis's assertions, Dr. Paine, as usual, gives an unfair impression of his labors, and leads the reader to believe that all the cases of any disease that Louis examined in order to arrive at definite conclusions in reference to the characteristic lesion of the typhoid disease, were '50 cases of acute disease having certain other analogies, and 83 other cases where these analogies are said to have been more or less wanting.'" The latter clause of the sentence from "50" embraces my words, which stand in their proper relations, and bear the usual marks of a quotation.

Now I will show by the statement as it exists in my work, that I re-

presented the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. The pretended quotation is at my page 686, and refers *exclusively* to the number of cases which are offered by M. Louis as the absolute foundation of his generalization of the *anatomical* lesion of the glands of Peyer. Thus:

"The first thing, we say, which excited our surprise, is the broad affirmation that a lesion of the glands of Peyer may be taken as the anatomical characteristic of typhoid fever, *because it was present in* 50 cases of acute disease having certain other analogies, and *was absent* in 83 other cases where those analogies are said to have been more or less wanting."—In the same paragraph, and connected with the same subject, I use the words, "a comparatively *unimportant* lesion of structure;" that is, of Peyer's glands. The bearing of the word "*unimportant*" will be seen hereafter.

The foregoing 50 and 83 cases (133) make the whole number of dissections upon which M. Louis professes, in his work, to have founded his conclusion as to the glands of Peyer. The reader must not be drawn off by any considerations relating to the experience of M. Louis beyond what is the ostensible foundation of his work. With this alone I was concerned; though it will be ultimately seen that I allowed any latitude of experience that might extend beyond the work itself. I should add, however, that I have objected to the employment of cases which do not appear to have received that attention from M. Louis which was bestowed upon the 138 cases of the typhoid affection, or which are not analyzed according to his requisitions of other writers,—exempting, also, from objection the 83 anatomical inspections in other diseases. It is therefore a primary object with Dr. B. to make it appear that all the cases mentioned in M. Louis's "Advertisement" actually came under his critical observation.

But, to the point. What does M. Louis say of the basis of his conclusion as to the anatomical lesion of Peyer's glands? I will first state it as expressed in the conclusion of a paragraph, which I will render memorable by soon quoting in full. Thus:—"so that I have analyzed *the diseased changes* of the viscera of 133 subjects, and the *symptoms* of nearly 900."

Now as the *anatomical* lesion could only be ascertained by dissection, the reader will see that I not only stated the entire number of cases which were the ostensible basis of the conclusion, but distinguished the *classes* of cases which make up the 133 anatomical inspections. This, as will be seen, was repeated in other places. I did it for the purpose of precision, and that the whole merits of the subject should be distinctly before my reader. But, as will be soon seen, Dr. B. endeavors to instil the belief that the whole 900 cases should be taken into the account as it respects *the anatomical* lesion of the glands of Peyer, and then charges me, directly, with having in my statement suppressed a part of the facts, or, rather, with having misrepresented them.

Let us now go back to the preceding quotations for the purpose of making out my specifications as to the extract from my Essay. The fraud consists in not taking along the words "*because it was present in*," by which the 50 cases are shown to have been instances in which

the anatomical lesion was found, and in expunging from the very body of the quotation, the important words "*was absent in.*" But, shall charity come to the aid of my critic, and shall he be indulged with the allowance that the quotation was carelessly made? The selected words are all arranged as they stand in my Essay, and are duly marked, whilst the deliberate mutilation of the extract will be fully shown by its artificial relation to the perverted extract from M. Louis.

The reader will therefore see, that only 133 cases can be brought to the anatomical lesion, and that I might thus silence my adversary at once by throwing his mutilated quotation back upon him. But, I have yet a long account to settle with him, and have chosen not only to expose the whole of this affair, but, in so doing, to show to the world with what scrupulous fairness I have treated M. Louis.

After the surreptitious quotation from my work, Dr. B. goes on thus: "After speaking of the state of doubt in which physicians were in reference to fever—some calling it a gastro-enteritis, others a putrid adynamic, ataxic and typhoid fever, Louis continues thus."

Having now arrived at the remaining ground of my specifications, I shall present the quotation as rendered by Dr. B. in his original translation (having *then* "translated truly *the meaning* of the author *in every respect*"), and the perverted version, in parallel columns; and then subjoin the original French which Dr. B. suppresses. The original punctuation is observed throughout.

Rejected Translation.

"I collected during this space of time, in addition to some incomplete facts, 138 observations of typhoid fever, 60 of which were relative to individuals who had died of it. I analyzed all, and in order to determine among the numerous lesions found in the patients who died of those that are peculiar to typhus, I compared them with the alterations found as consequences of other acute diseases, in 83 subjects whose histories *I learned. I did the same with the symptoms* observed in those affected with typhus fever, or with any other acute affection, which terminated in restoration to health or in death, so that I have analyzed the diseased changes of the viscera of 133 subjects, and the symptoms of nearly 900."

"Revised and altered" Translation.

"During this period I obtained, with the exception of some imperfectly recorded facts, 138 observations of the typhoid fever, 60 of which related to individuals that died. I analyzed both, and in order to know, among the numerous lesions found in those who died, those that were peculiar to the typhoid affection, I compared them with the alterations observed in consequence of other acute diseases, in 83 subjects, whose cases *I carefully recorded. I did the same when examining* the symptoms in patients affected with the typhoid disease or any other acute affection terminating fatally, or by return of health. So that in fact I have analyzed the alteration in the viscera of 133 subjects who died, and the symptoms of nearly 900."

The suppressed Original.

"J'ai rassemblé, dans cet espace de temps, à part quelques faits incomplets, cent trente-huit observations de fièvre typhoïde, dont cinquante

relatives à des individus qui ont succombé. J'ai analysé les unes et les autres, et afin de connaître, parmi les nombreuses lésions de ceux qui ont péri, celles qui sont propres à l'affection typhoïde, je les ai comparées aux altérations observées à la suite d'autres maladies aiguës, chez quatre-vingt-trois sujets dont j'ai aussi *recueilli* l'histoire. *J'ai fait le même travail pour les symptômes*, chez les malades atteints de fièvre typhoïde ou de toute autre affection aiguë, terminée par le retour à la santé ou par la mort; en sorte, que j'ai analysé les altérations des viscères de cent-trente-trois sujets, et les symptômes de prés de neuf cents." —(P. ix.) *The Italics are mine.*

The reader will perceive that the old translation is the true one, whilst the new translation is false, and adapted to the mutilated quotation from my work. Doubtless, Dr. B., by altering the style of the whole, and by suppressing the French, expected to escape his own snare. It is also wrought with so good a device as to require some management to secure effectually the proper game. I shall, therefore, in the first place, point out one of the most important violations of the original, and then show its application. This violation consists in substituting "*I carefully recorded*" for "I learned,"—the original being "*j'ai recueilli.*" As this will prove to be an important word, it may be well to satisfy all that my critic's old translation is right, by giving the various import of the word from Chambaud's large dictionary. Thus:—"*Recueillir. To collect, to pick up, to compile, to gather.*" It will soon be seen, also, that Dr. B. understands its true meaning, as he had just previously rendered it, in the old translation, "*I collected.*"

Now the reader must turn back to the mutilated and the true extract from my work, by which I was pointing out M. Louis's data for his generalization as to the supposed anatomical characteristic of the typhoid fever,—that is to say, "50" and "83" dissections. This statement of mine, therefore, has nothing to do with any other foundation that may constitute the general basis of M. Louis's work. That, as I have said, is stated in its appropriate place. But, Dr. B. takes this extract, mutilates it, and places it at the head of the foregoing mutilated extract from M. Louis, to sustain his accompanying charge that, "Dr. Paine, as usual, gives an unfair impression of his (Louis's) labors, and leads the reader to believe that all the cases of any disease that Louis examined," &c.

The false translation of *j'ai recueilli*, or "*I carefully examined*," is designed for a triple purpose; the first of which is, that it should bear upon the mutilated extract from my work, and the imputation of Dr. B. that I had given by it a false account as to the number of cases employed by M. Louis in arriving at his generalization as to the anatomical lesion of the glands of Peyer; secondly, that I had also given by it "an unfair impression of his (Louis's) labors," in a general sense; and, thirdly, that the whole 900 cases are as much entitled to be regarded as a genuine foundation of the work on typhoid fever, as the 138 cases of that disease which M. Louis did probably *carefully record*, and whose treatment, there can be no doubt from his work, he conducted himself. It is this third bearing at which Dr. B. especially aims. Having conveyed

the false impression, that I had suppressed all allusion to any other than "50 cases of acute disease having certain other analogies, and 85 other cases where those analogies are said to have been more or less wanting," he proceeds to alter the extract from M. Louis to show that the whole 900 cases were of equal value, and thus to enforce the more strongly the injustice he imputes to me. The work on the typhoid fever shows, on every page, the close attention which M. Louis bestowed upon the 138 cases of that disease; whilst we are only told, in the foregoing extract, and no where more specifically, that he "learned" or "collected" the residue of the 900 cases;—from which it is clear that he collected them from the *records of the hospital.* In any event, we are no where given to understand that he "*carefully recorded*" them himself, whilst the intent of the translator will become more glaring by his fabrication of words, and another false translation of *j'ai recueilli*, which will soon be stated. Nevertheless, I made no objection to the 83 dissections in which the lesion of the glands of Peyer was wanting, although we are only told by M. Louis that he "collected" their histories. I make this statement to show the bearing of the new translation, "in 83 subjects, whose histories *I carefully recorded.*" This refers directly back to the 138 cases of typhoid fever which were the peculiar subjects of M. Louis's attention (according to the work), and, by the new words, it is implied that the 83 cases were not less the subjects of his care. The sentence then runs into the next following, so as to make it appear that M. Louis as *carefully* observed the symptoms of the whole 900 cases. Thus:—"in 83 subjects, whose cases *I carefully recorded. I did the same when examining the symptoms* in patients affected with the typhoid disease *or any other* acute affection terminating fatally, or by return of health." But, that my critic might make this conclusion the more certain, he adds another bait, and actually fabricates the words "*when examining*,"—whereby he makes M. Louis not only to have "*carefully recorded*" all the cases, but to have actually "*examined the symptoms*" of the 900 cases. Nor is this the worst of it; for, by interpolating the words "when examining," Dr. B. perfects the design at which he was aiming, namely, that of making out a fact, that M. Louis not only "*carefully recorded*" all the cases, but that he made the record "*when examining* the symptoms" of the 900 cases. Thus:—"in 83 subjects, whose cases *I carefully recorded. I did the same when examining the symptoms*," &c. The reader, by reverting to the extract, will see, also, that the words "when examining," in their relation to the preceding sentence, are even of more comprehensive import; as they represent M. Louis actually *analyzing*, *comparing*, &c., "*when* examining" the symptoms of the 900 cases.

The reader will now see the connection of the whole, by referring to the old and new translations, and the mutilated extract from my work. I may say, however, that having thus *fixed* the whole matter, the Doctor proceeds to apply it after the following manner; viz. "One would think that the *accurate examination* of about 1000 cases, and the autopsies of about 1–10 of them, would have enabled any accurate observer to decide whether a lesion was *unimportant* or not." The word "un-

important" is in Italics, and refers to my use of it in relation to the anatomical lesion of Peyer's glands, in the paragraph from which the mutilated extract is taken. The reader will now see, therefore, the impression which is intended to be conveyed, that, in stating the number of 133 cases as the basis of induction as to the *anatomical* lesion of Peyer's glands, I had suppressed a part of my author's data. But, a greater offence consists in representing that extract, mutilated or unmutilated, as announcing the foundation of the whole of my author's work, and in then proceeding to confirm that imputation by a false translation of a long paragraph which had no relation to my specific subject.

The reader will not be surprised to learn that I have not yet presented the whole of the fraudulent extract. The foregoing is the last part of it, and the following is the first part.

Rejected Translation.

"In order to be able to make up my opinion upon a question concerning which one could decide very little by means of simple discussion, *I collected* between the years 1822 and 1827, the histories of all the patients suffering from acute diseases, which were admitted into the hospital of La Charité, in the wards of St. John and St. Joseph, at that time under the superintendence of M. Chomel."

"Revised and altered" Translation.

"In order to make up my mind upon a question which simple discussion would not tend to elucidate, *I examined and recorded*, between the years of 1822 and 1827, the histories of *all the patients* affected with acute disease, that were admitted to the hospital of La Charité *in the apartments under the supervision* of Mons. Chomel."

The suppressed Original.

"Afin de savoir à quoi m'en tenir sur une question que ne pouvaient pas beaucoup éclairer de simples discussions, *j'ai recueilli*, de 1822 à 1827, l'histoire de tous les sujets atteints de maladies aiguës admis à l'hôpital de la Charité, dans les salles Saint-Jean et Saint-Joseph, alors confiées à M. Chomel."

The reader will perceive that the old translation is the true one, whilst the new is false; the words "*I examined and recorded*" being substituted for "*I collected.*" This was designed, also, to make it appear that the 900 cases should be considered as having been "examined and recorded" by M. Louis, just as the 138 cases of typhoid fever had been, and that the whole, therefore, should be allowed to form equally the basis of his work. To carry this effect more fully, my critic has placed the words "*all the patients*" in Italics in the new translation,—the same being in the Roman letter both in the old translation and in the original work. The other Italics are mine. By this process, also, he strengthens the charge as to my having falsely represented my author as to the foundation of the anatomical doctrine, specifically, and in a general sense as to the common basis of the work.

It is also worthy of remark, that the translation of the words *j'ai recueilli* "I examined and recorded in one instance, and "I carefully recorded" in the other, and the connections in which they stand, show

forcibly the *quo animo* of the writer; whilst, if any charity could be extended to the translation of *j'ai recueilli* "*I carefully* recorded," it is dissipated by the translation of the same words "*I examined and recorded*," and the farther fabrication of the words "*when examining*." But, the only meaning which *j'ai recueilli* can possibly bear is that as artlessly rendered by Dr. B. in his original version; and that such is truly his opinion is shown by its translation, in one instance, "I collected," and in the other, "I learned,"—both occurring in one paragraph, and relating to the same subject.

This affair being destined to occupy a conspicuous place amongst literary curiosities, I will indicate one aspect more in which my critic has *fixed* the matter for my discomfiture and for the benefit of "copyright." This will appear by taking together the whole paragraph which immediately follows the quotation which I have been employed in *unfixing*. The reader will then have the whole before him, from the beginning of the mutilated extract from my work, to the end of the subject in its direct aspect. The following words which I have placed in Italics are intended by Dr. B. to confirm M. Louis's extreme and equal accuracy of observation in respect to the 900 cases, and to carry more conclusively the imputed offence of suppression or misrepresentation. Thus:—"One would think that these facts were sufficient to enable one to come to some definite (we will not use 'conclusive,' as it offends our commentator so much) results. 'In my analysis,' *continues* Louis, '*I have wholly left out any facts which were not sufficiently exact*—and when I have deduced any consequences, I have always kept before me this idea by the author of Emile, I know that truth resides in things, &c.' In a note to this paragraph Louis informs us that he threw aside as incomplete all the 'observations' made during his first eight months of *devotion* to these studies. One would think that the *accurate examination* of about 1000 cases ['nearly 900'], and the autopsies of 1–10 of them, would have enabled any accurate observer to decide whether a lesion was *unimportant* or not.

"*So much* for Louis's *data* and accuracy of observation of nature."

Here the strong intent of Dr. B. to misrepresent me, and to make it appear that M. Louis bestowed as much personal care upon the whole 900 cases, and intended the whole to form equally the basis of his work, as the 138 cases of the typhoid affection, is again forcibly shown. And, to make the deception more effective, my critic introduces into the last quotation an extract from M. Louis, in which he (M. Louis) says "in my *analysis* I have *wholly left out* any facts which were not sufficiently exact,"—Dr. B. meaning to imply by this citation, in its connection with the whole paragraph and the preceding, that M. Louis *equally* employed in his "analysis" the entire 900 cases. And, to make this still more forcible, he refers to a note by M. Louis in which he (M. Louis) threw aside certain other cases. Now in this note, M. Louis adverts specifically to the 900 cases, and (without invalidating those), he does not limit the rejected ones, as Dr. B. implies, to "his first eight months," but leaves it indefinite. Thus:—"*Among those* which

I did not consider sufficiently accurate, were all those which I collected during the first eight months of the six years," &c.

But the foregoing intent is rendered more conspicuous by the artificial and emphatic translation of the words—"In my analysis I have *wholly left out* any facts which *were not* sufficiently exact."

Now, what was my critic's first translation?

"In these analyses *I have not made use* of any records of disease which *did not appear* to me to be sufficiently exact."

And, what the French?—"J'ai retranché des matériaux de mes analyses les faits qui m'ont paru manquer d'un certain degré d'exactétude."

There are some minor circumstances attending the management of the foregoing new translation which go to show its extensive bearing, and the ingenuity with which it is executed. The reader will doubtless observe them; but I will detain him by indicating one which has a bearing upon a subject already examined. It relates to the question (so unimportant in principle) whether M. Louis had the actual treatment of the typhoid patients. It should be premised that I have observed the punctuation as it occurs in all the extracts which relate to the subject under investigation; and here, by the way, it will be seen that the new punctuation itself is sometimes designed to coöperate with the altered version.

Now, where it is announced by M. Louis, that Chomel had the supervision of the hospital, Dr. B. translates the French in the manner already stated, but which I shall here repeat for the convenience of the reader.

Old Translation.

"I collected between the years 1822 and 1827, the histories of all the patients suffering from acute diseases, which were admitted into the hospital of La Charité, in the wards of St. John and St. Joseph, at that time under the superintendence of M. Chomel."

New Translation.

"*I examined and recorded*, between the years of 1822 and 1827, the histories of *all the patients* affected with acute disease, that were admitted to the hospital of La Charité *in the apartments under the supervision* of Mons. Chomel."

All the Italics are mine, except "*all the patients*," which my critic introduced for his own use, as already shown. The reader will see that the words "*St. John and St. Joseph*" are expunged from the new translation, as these are of specific import, and show that those two wards were probably appropriated, more especially than others, to M. Louis. In the original, and in the discarded translation, "the superintendence" evidently refers to the hospital at large, whilst a distinction is implied as to two of the wards. In the "revised and altered" translation, however, that distinction is obliterated.

"Thus, tho' from truth I haply err,
And sacrifice my character,
What man of taste my right will doubt,
To put things in, or leave them out?
'Tis more than right, it is a duty
If we consider landscape beauty.
He no'er will as an artist shine,
Who copies nature line by line;

Whoe'or from nature takes a view
Must copy and improve it too:
Thus I (which few, I think, can boast)
Have made a landscape of a Post."—"*Dr. Panglos.*"

Having already trespassed too far upon this week's Journal, I shall defer my remaining examination of this involved subject. At the close of my fourth number, will be also found some remarks having an important relation to it.

MALFORMATION OF THE ANUS.

To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

Dear Sir,—I send you the following case, which, if you think of interest sufficient, you are at liberty to publish in your valuable Journal.

On the 30th of October, 1838, Elizur Graves, of Solon, in this county, consulted me respecting a child of his, æt. three months, for a malformation of the anus, which was congenital. It was not discovered until some days after birth, when, after repeated exhibition of cathartic medicines, no evacuation taking place, the nurse, on attempting to exhibit an enema, found no opening. A practitioner was consulted, who gave an unfavorable prognosis as to any remedy, and the child was considered as among the incurable. But as it continued to live, and even to thrive, at the end of three months the parents brought it to me. On examination, there was no opening into the rectum, but a little posterior to the natural situation of the anus a slight projection of the skin was observed, which, on examination, gave an obscure feel of fluctuation. The skin was also slightly inflamed. I advised an opening into this point, which the parents readily assented to, and it was accordingly made, and about a tablespoonful of pus discharged, but no fæces as was expected. I next examined the opening with a probe, but could find no communication with the bowel. I next passed a sharp-pointed narrow bistoury, with the edge towards the sacrum, in the direction of the rectum, the distance of three inches. It was withdrawn, and the point found smeared with fæces. Considerable hæmorrhage followed. I next introduced an elastic gum catheter, of small size, using different sizes until the largest ones could be passed without difficulty. Some warm water was now injected through the tube, which brought away a quantity of liquid fæces. I directed that the tube should be passed twice a-day, and an injection thrown in each time, and in the intervals a wax bougie of large size worn constantly. The next day after the operation, a pint of fæces escaped at one time, and the same amount continued to escape daily for a week. Before the operation the child had fits of crying and straining; the abdomen was also much enlarged and very hard. These ceased at the end of a week. The child was also troubled with vomitings before the operation, which now no longer were present. The bougie was persevered in for four weeks, at the end of which it was discontinued, and the child improved very fast in flesh; the evacuations from the bowels became natural, and it has continued well ever since.

The control over the bowels is as perfect and natural as in any healthy child.

There are some features in this case which make it more than ordinarily interesting. In the first place, the length of time which elapsed before the operation, and the question how long this state might have continued without serious consequences to the life of the child; and second, whether nature would have finally effected a cure by suppuration or ulceration. These are questions which may with propriety be asked. As to the length of time which elapsed, the child was nearly as large as ordinary children of that age, and was not afflicted with vomiting or crying more than many are who are considered healthy. The process of nutrition and chylification went on regularly, and the fæces were formed as in health. The large intestines must have become much dilated to have contained the quantity which had accumulated in them.

Whether nature would have accomplished an opening for the contents of the rectum, is not so easily answered. I am convinced that the small cavity containing pus did not open into the rectum, and also that the termination of the bowel was much higher than that of the abscess. Yet it is possible that the ulcerative process might have finally done what was accomplished by art. A. B. Shipman, M.D.

Cortlandville, N. Y., Oct., 1840.

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IRREGULAR PRACTICE.

The question is occasionally asked, why it is that the increasing new school of practitioners, the homœopathists, are not recognized or stigmatized as medical adventurers, and ejected from those associations which watch over the fair fame of the profession. The steamers, natural bone-setters, cancer-curers, and specific prescribers, are proscribed without a dissenting voice—but the disciples of Hahnemann have no interruptions thrown in their way, notwithstanding their wide departure from the character and customs of the great mass of regular physicians throughout the civilized world. It is very certain that no concerted disposition has anywhere been manifested to eject homœopathists from their connection with chartered institutions, the constitution and by-laws of which positively declare that irregular practitioners shall not be countenanced by them. A large proportion, if not all, in this country, who are converts to the new system, are members of these societies. The question then arises—are they scientific, or are they not? Who shall decide?

The experience of ages very clearly proves that it is utterly impossible to force men to prescribe remedies according to a dictatorial injunction: in a word, the most vigilant guardians of medical honor never have been able to keep down the spirit of free inquiry and experiment, nor prevent the announcement of new doctrines and novel schemes for managing the diseases to which man is incident. It would be the height of absurdity,

therefore, on the part of any chartered medical society, to meddle with this increasing, and, with the great public, popular sect of medical advisers. We are amazed, on reflection, that any one should have suggested that the dignity of the pure school requires that these infinitesimal gentlemen should be thrust out of the Æsculapian temple. With all the advantages arising from a systematic medical education, they simply aver that new light is discovered. Instead of giving common doses to patients, they simply deal out small ones, or none at all. This is really the sum of their criminal derelictions. Nothing would so effectually and immediately bring them into universal repute, as the anathema of a medical society. Individuals may say what they please, and hold the whole fraternity up to derision; but whenever, among us, a society, in its corporate capacity, attempts coercion—farewell to its character, and its charter too. Indiscreet, hot-tempered men, are not scarce, who would involve a whole community in turmoil, could they but rise to distinction on the downfall of an envied rival. Most of the difficulties that have produced discord among the members of medical associations, and made them odious in the estimation of the people, have had their origin in the meddlesome propensities of some two or three restless spirits. The world is large enough to accommodate all its inhabitants. If an invalid prefers to take a pill containing the thousandth part of a grain of silex, instead of an ounce of the tincture of rhubarb, what is the objection? The law will never force him to do otherwise than he chooses in the matter, however much his choice may annoy those who feel themselves scandalized by such preference.

For ourselves, we acknowledge the deep mortification we have felt in contemplating the narrow views and illiberal policy of some who imagine themselves wise. The interests of science are not to be maintained by legal enactments, nor the respectability of the medical profession injured by the progress of inquiry after legitimate truth.

Medical Lectures in Boston.—This morning the annual course of lectures commences at the Mason-street College. We know not how many students have yet been matriculated. That the facilities for acquiring, here, a finished medical education are unsurpassed, no person at all conversant with Boston, would presume to question. Besides the ordinary daily series of lectures in the school, there are private opportunities for studying practical anatomy under the supervision of gentlemen who particularly devote themselves to the instruction of pupils. In addition to these advantages, the hospitals, dispensaries, private and public libraries, each and all of them, are, in the estimation of those fully competent to judge, objects of unfailing interest and profit to a student of medicine.

Vermont Asylum for the Insane.—Dr. Rockwell's fourth annual report to the Legislature is characterized, as in past years, by a clear and judicious review of the success of the institution over which he presides. At the close of last year, there were 60 patients; and since, 73 new ones, up to October, were admitted: total enjoying the benefits of the asylum during the year, 143. During the year, 61 were discharged; at the date of the communication, Oct. 1st, 81 were under his care. All the improvements so judiciously and unhesitatingly introduced within the com-

pass of a few years at Worcester, the McLean Asylum, &c., such as pleasant amusements, religious exercises at regular periods, &c., have been wisely copied by Dr. Rockwell, who is evidently heartily engaged in the philanthropic duties of the place. The salary is too small—'tis miserable. The superintendent should at least have enough to encourage him with a hope of having something to retire upon in the winter of life. This custom of starving medical officers is becoming unpopular. Pay them liberally, and thus secure their undivided services.

Anatomist's Vade-mecum.—A system of human anatomy has appeared in England, by W. J. E. Wilson, a lecturer at the Middlesex Hospital, that would be much prized here, were it re-published. It costs abroad 12*s.* 6*d.*, but might be afforded much cheaper in an American dress. Some of the illustrations surpass in beauty and distinctness of execution the plates found in works of far higher pretensions. All the cheap anatomical manuals ostensibly designed for students, with us, are miserably defective in the plates, which are anything but sure guides in the dissecting room. Paxton is free from the sin of anatomical caricatures; but it is a high-priced book—too dear for the use which is sometimes necessarily made of it. Some one who is qualified would find his account in constructing a neat, accurate, low-priced dissecting chart, with just such engravings as fill the eye so favorably in Mr. Wilson's Vade-mecum.

Encouragement to Men of Science.—A committee, consisting of Prof. T. Thomson, Dr. Prout, Prof. Owen, Prof. T. Graham, and Dr. R. D. Thomson, have been appointed in London, with a grant of £200, to make a series of experiments on the *chemistry and physiology of digestion*—and to "*bring over from America Alexis St. Martin,*" upon whom Dr. Beaumont performed his experiments. St. Martin, it will be recollected, was dreadfully wounded at the battle of Plattsburg, during the last war, by having the arch of several ribs and a portion of the fundus of the stomach carried away by a cannon ball. When exhibited in Boston, several years ago, he appeared in excellent health, notwithstanding the aperture into the stomach was frightfully large, so that whatever was swallowed might be seen to drop from the cardiac orifice. Not happening to know where he is now residing, if any correspondents of the Journal are acquainted with his place of residence, it would be gratifying intelligence to be informed, and it might, perhaps, facilitate the operations of the learned transatlantic commission.

Medical Lectures in London.—The Lancet for Sept. 26th contains the prospectuses of the various schools and hospitals for the present lecture season. Collectively they constitute a formidable document, which is worth perusal. It is very certain that the sums paid by students must be immense—and there must be a multitude of them, too, to warrant the extensive preparations announced for their accommodation. Were it not for the constant demand for surgeons by the British government in the army and navy, at recruiting posts, and marine bettering houses; on board of mail packets, steamboats, and at all military stations and on all expeditions in the vast colonial possessions, the numbers educated to medicine and surgery in the United Kingdom, could not possibly have employment.

Vermont Academy of Medicine.—A circular is abroad from this institution, dated *March*, 1841 !—quite in advance. A new faculty has been appointed—or rather new additions have been made to the board—and the prospect of a revivification of the school is encouraging. Prof. Gowdy's death, which took place last year, was a severe loss. Dr. Bryan is placed in the chair of surgery and medical jurisprudence; and Dr. C. L. Mitchell, of New York, is engaged in the new department of pathology. This gentleman is favorably known as the author of a synopsis of auscultation and percussion ;—he was a pupil of M. Louis. Six physicians constitute the board of examiners. The lectures will commence on the second Thursday of March next, at Castleton. A winter course of anatomy and physiology, by Dr. Nelson, will begin the first Wednesday of January. He is an accurate teacher, and stands well with those who are judges of what a man should know who professes to instruct others.

Tumors among the Chinese. By G. T. Lay, Esq.—Tumors of every sort, situation and size, abound in the southern parts of China. They are sometimes encysted, or steatomatous, but more frequently sarcomatous, and are for a long time of so healthy a structure, that they seem to be natural appendages to the body. At the end of a space of time that varies in length, the textures give way, unhealthy matters are deposited, and the general health begins to suffer. The natives live upon a vegetable diet, which is well sodden in the dressing, and therefore swallow a great deal of warm water with their food. They use but little salt, as it is an expensive article in China, owing to the government monopoly. To a watery diet and great parsimony in the use of salt, I impute the prevalence of tumors; though this remark must be regarded only as conjectural. There is, however, an experimentum crucis, which may be tried to ascertain the truth of this conjecture; for it appears that the wealthy who can afford to season the vegetables, and eat more freely of animal diet, are not subject to these tumors. The walls of the hall in the Canton hospital are decorated with pictures representing individuals with tumors before incision, and again without tumors after they had recovered their health. They were painted by Lamqua, who says, as the doctor receives nothing for "cutting," he can take no pay for painting.—*Lancet.*

Mr. French's Mode of Operating for Strabismus. By D. O. Edwards. —The following is the abridged fashion in which I went through the process in four cases :—The patient was seated on a chair in a moderate light, and the assistant standing behind placed one hand over the sound eye, and with the other hand raised the upper lid of the affected organ. Upon the patient's turning the eye outwards, I snipped the conjunctiva over the under edge of the internal rectus, and introduced a curved probe under the muscle. By depressing the handle of the probe the point was brought forward, and projected a little above the upper edge of the muscle; a second snip with the scissors enabled the point to emerge; and, finally, the muscle was divided by the scissors upon the probe.

The operation thus simplified consists of but three steps :—

1. The nipping of the conjunctiva.
2. The introduction of the probe under the muscle.
3. The division of the muscle upon the probe.

From a perusal of this description, it is evident that various prelimi-

nary and subordinate arrangements, which have hitherto been considered essential to the operation, are perfectly useless; no bandaging of the sound eye; no speculum for the upper palpebra, and no tenter-hook of any form is employed.

The probe which I have alluded to consists of two stems placed parallel, at a distance sufficient for the point of the scissors to pass between.—*Ibid.*

Noli Me Tangere cured by Chloride of Zinc.—John Townley, admitted to the Cheltenham General Hospital December 16, 1839; ulceration affecting the left nostril and septem. Chloride of zinc one part, sulphate of lime two parts; mix. This was applied twice, a poultice being used to assist the separation of the sloughs. He also had the following medicine:—Blue pill, compound extract of colocynth, each 3ss.; croton oil, two drops. Make into twelve pills, and let two be taken every night.

After the sloughs had separated, the parts completely healed; a considerable thickening and redness remained about the upper lip and nostrils; he was otherwise completely well; discharged. He was recommended a lotion, with prussic acid and liq. plumbi, and to keep his bowels regular with some aperient medicine; he continues well at this time, June 30.

A case of long-standing phagedenic ulcer on the arm, which had resisted every means of cure that had been tried, completely healed after two applications of the chloride of zinc and gypsum, applied as in the first-mentioned case.—*Ibid.*

Curious Case of Pin Swallowing. By H. Birt, Esq., Surgeon, Sussex.—A girl of weak intellect, æt. 23, came under the author's care in July, 1839. Before this time a surgeon had extracted 27 pins from the left mamma, and in the course of four months Mr. Birt extracted 254 pins and needles (making in all 281) from almost every part of the left side of the body. The girl had been in the habit of swallowing pins and needles out of bravado or from the bribe of sweetmeats when at school almost 13 years before.—*London Medical Gazette.*

Number of deaths in Boston for the week ending Oct. 31, 27.—Males, 12—females, 15. Stillborn, 1.

Of consumption, 6—dropsy on the brain, 3—hooping cough, 2—dysentery, 2—apoplexy, 1—debility, 2—infantile, 1—sudden, 1—burn, 1—typhous fever, 2—dropsy in the head, 1—canker rash, 1—fits, 1—casualty, 1—croup, 1.

A PHYSICIAN,

Located in a large town in the eastern part of Massachusetts, and having a practice worth more than $1000 a year, offers his situation for sale; possession given the ensuing spring. None need apply who have not the best recommendations. Address the Editor—if by letter, post-paid. Nov. 4—eoptf

TO PHYSICIANS.

Any physician having a fair share of practice, and wishing to dispose of his stock and stand, may hear of a purchaser by addressing a letter, post paid, stating terms, &c., to the editor of this Journal. N. 4.—1t*

PRIVATE MEDICAL INSTRUCTION.

The subscribers having been long engaged in private medical instruction, propose to receive pupils, and to devote to them such time and opportunities for study and practice as are necessary for a medical education. Their pupils will be admitted without fee to the lectures on midwifery in the Massachusetts Medical College, to the practice of the Massachusetts Hospital, and have opportunities for the study of practical anatomy under the immediate superintendence of Dr. Otis. Terms may be learned by calling on Dr. Otis, No. 8 Chambers street. Fuel, lights and rooms without charge.

WALTER CHANNING,
GEORGE W. OTIS, JR.

Boston, August 19, 1840.

BORROWED BOOKS.—Persons having books belonging to Dr. Lewis, are requested to return them immediately. A. 25.—3m

LECTURES ON HERNIA AND MECHANICAL SURGERY.

On Tuesday evening the 9th of November, at 7 o'clock, Dr. Chase will commence his Winter Course of Lectures on Hernia and analogous diseases, combined with Mechanical Surgery, as applied to the correction of distortions.

The relief of the various *curvatures of the spine, deformities of the limbs, and club-foot*, will be discussed.

The Lectures will be delivered in the lecture-room at his private residence, on Tuesday and Friday of each week, at 7 o'clock, P. M., and will continue three months.

The course will be purely *clinical*, as in every instance patients will be present affected with the diseases to be fully under consideration, and the student will have an opportunity of becoming practically acquainted with the use of all the instruments employed in the treatment of these diseases.

Tickets, *five dollars.* HEBER CHASE, M.D.,
Pembroke-st., Sept., 1840. O. 14—1m *Ninth street, below Walnut.*

MEDICAL LECTURES IN BOSTON.

The Medical Faculty of Harvard University will begin their annual course of Lectures on the first Wednesday of November next, at the Massachusetts Medical College, Mason street, Boston. The Introductory Lecture will be given at 12 o'clock, M., in the Anatomical Theatre, on that day, and the following will constitute their number.

Principles and Practice of Surgery, by . . . . . Prof. WARREN.
Theory and Practice of Medicine, by . . . . . Prof. CHANNING.
Materia Medica and Clinical Medicine, by . . . . . Prof. BIGELOW.
Principles of Surgery and Clinical Surgery, by . . . . . Prof. HAYWARD.
Obstetrics, by . . . . . Prof. WEBSTER.
Anatomy and Physiology, by . . . . . Prof. WARE.

The Medical Faculty are anxiously solicitous that additional and essential facilities at the Massachusetts General Hospital, and also of seeing the surgical operations performed there during the winter. They have reason to believe that the previous delay, now happily terminated, of anatomy, will be carried more completely into operation than has heretofore been done, and that the facilities for practical anatomy will consequently be much increased. WALTER CHANNING, *Dean.*

Boston, July 6, 1840. Jy 15—3N

MEDICAL TUITION FOR 1840—41.

The subscribers will commence their course of instruction for the ensuing medical year, on November 1st, 1840 (the period at which the Lectures at the Medical College of Harvard University begin).

Private examinations will be held on all the branches of medicine and surgery during the lectures, to enable those students intending to offer themselves for examination at the College in the spring, may be prepared. Students may be assured that they will have constant and abundant opportunities for the cultivation of practical anatomy at all seasons of the year. After the lectures, the arrangements will be as follows until the ensuing November.

Free access at all hours to the United States Marine Hospital at Chelsea will be granted; a daily morning visit will be made by Dr. Stedman, and every week Drs. Perry, Bowditch and Wiley will visit in the afternoon, for the purpose, chiefly, of learning the physical signs of diseases of the chest. Dr. Bowditch will deliver a course of lectures on diseases of the heart and air passages. Admission to the medical and surgical practice at the Massachusetts General Hospital, the Infirmary for Diseases of the Lungs, and to the practice of one of the Dispensary Districts; occasional opportunities for operative surgery and midwifery.

Courses of instruction as follows:

Theory and Practice of Medicine and Chemistry, by . . . . Dr. PERRY.
Midwifery, Materia Medica and Demonstrations on Morbid Anatomy at the Hospitals, by . . . . Dr. BOWDITCH.
Anatomy, Surgery and Medical Jurisprudence, by . . . . Dr. WILEY.

Rooms for study either at Boston, at the Infirmary for Diseases of the Lungs, or at Chelsea, free of expense. For terms, apply to H. G. Wiley, M.D., or to either of the subscribers.

DR. PERRY, 419 Washington st., DR. STEDMAN, Chelsea Marine Hospital,
DR. BOWDITCH, 8 Otis Place, DR. WILEY, 407 Washington st.
S. 16—copt.f.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.—MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The course of lectures will commence on Monday, the 2d day of November, and be continued under the following arrangement:—

Practice and Theory of Medicine, ... Nathaniel Chapman, M.D.
Chemistry, ... Robert Hare, M.D.
Surgery, ... William Gibson, M.D.
Anatomy, ... William E. Horner, M.D.
Institutes of Medicine, ... Samuel Jackson, M.D.
Materia Medica and Pharmacy, ... George B. Wood, M.D.
Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children, . . . Hugh L. Hodge, M.D.

Clinical Lectures on Medicine and Surgery are delivered regularly at the Philadelphia Hospital (Blockley), and at the Pennsylvania Hospital, from the beginning to the end of the session.

129 Chesnut street, Philadelphia, July 15, 1840. W. E. HORNER,
Jy 20—optN15 *Dean of the Medical Faculty.*

THE BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL is published every Wednesday, by D. CLAPP, JR., at 184 Washington St., corner of Franklin St., to whom all communications must be addressed, post paid. It is also published in Monthly Parts, with a printed cover. There are two volumes each year. J. V. C. SMITH, M.D., Editor. Price $3,00 a year in advance, $3,50 after three months, or $4,00 if not paid within the year. Two copies to the same address, for $5,00 a year, in advance. Orders from a distance must be accompanied by payment in advance or satisfactory reference. Postage the same as for a newspaper.